



North West Water Authority

Dawson House,
Great Sankey,
Warrington.
WA5 3LW

31st December, 1974.

To: Members of the Regional
Fisheries Advisory Committee,
(Messrs. J.R.S. Watson, (Chairman);
T.A. Blackledge; J.M. Croft; E.P. Ecroyd;
T.M. Farrer; J.H. Fell; E.H. Fleming Smith;
A.E. Hall; W.F. Hobson; R.D. Houghton;
F.R. James; P.W. Jennings; Wm. McKenna;
R.A. Parkin; G.B. Robinson; and the Chairman
of the Authority (P.J. Liddell) and the
Vice Chairman of the Authority (T. Hourigan)
(ex. Officio)).

Dear Sir,

A meeting of the Regional Fisheries Advisory Committee will be held
at 2.15 p.m. on MONDAY, 6TH JANUARY, 1975, in the BOARD ROOM at
DAWSON HOUSE, GREAT SANKEY, for consideration of the following
business.

Yours faithfully,

R. E. WOODWARD,

Director of Administration.

A G E N D A

1. Apologies for absence.
2. Minutes of the last meeting (previously circulated).
3. Proceedings of Local Fisheries Advisory Committees:-
 - (A) South and West Cumberland - 2nd December, 1974.
Recommendations in the following minutes:-
 26. Water Bailiffs' Structure,
 27. Fisheries within the ownership of the Authority.
 - (B) Eden and District - 3rd December, 1974.
Recommendations in the following minutes:-
 29. "Coarse Fisheries" - Regional Fisheries Officer's Report.
 31. Weed Growth in the River Eden,
 33. Generator for Holmwrangle.

(C) Lune, Wyre, and Furness - 9th December, 1974.

Recommendations in the following minutes:-

24. Minutes of last meeting (Minute 20).

30. Bank erosion on the River Lune.

(D) South Lancashire - 11th December, 1974.

Recommendations in the following minutes:-

25. Fisheries within the ownership of the Authority.

(N.B. The Officers will report further verbally).

26. "Coarse Fisheries" - Regional Fisheries Officer's Report.

29. Poaching.

30. Coarse fish stocks on the rivers Ribble and Wyre.

(E) Mersey and Weaver - 16th December, 1974.

Recommendations in the following minutes:-

31. Fisheries within the ownership of the Authority.

32. "Coarse Fisheries" - Regional Fisheries Officer's Report.

33. Structure of Licence Duties for the Mersey and Weaver River Unit area.

4. Proceedings of the Fishery Licensing Sub-Committee.

5. Catch Returns - Salmon and Migratory Trout.

6. Manchester Water Order 1966 - Fisheries Improvement Work on the River Leven.

7. Land Drainage Representation on Fisheries Committees.

8. Ban on Importation of Wild Freshwater Fish.

9. Annual Meeting of Sea Fisheries Committees - London, 20th November, 1974.

10. Any Other Business.

NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITYMINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
SOUTH & WEST CUMBERLAND FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE2ND DECEMBER, 1974

Present: W. F. Hobson, Esq. (Chairman)
F. Bunting, Esq. R. C. Williams, Esq.
A. C. Matthews, Esq. G. B. Sedgwick, Esq.

22. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence from the meeting were submitted from Mr. P. J. Liddell, Mr. J. C. Wade and Mr. J. R. S. Watson.

23. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 2nd September, 1974, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

24. "TAKING STOCK" - A REPORT TO THE ASSOCIATION
OF RIVER AUTHORITIES

It was reported that the Chairman of the Regional Fisheries Advisory Committee was attending a meeting of Regional Fisheries Advisory Committee Chairmen in London at which it was anticipated that the possibility of introducing a system of licensing dealers in game fish similar to that operating at the present time in Ireland, would be discussed.

25. ROD AND LINE FISHING IN SOUTH WEST CUMBERLAND

At the last meeting of the Committee held on 2nd September, 1974, the Cumberland River Unit was requested to conduct a survey of that stretch of the River Ehen, and the adjacent low lying land, between Middle Bank Farm and the tidal limit, regarding the removal of gravel shoals. It was reported that at the present time the outcome of an engineering survey of the Ehen Channel was awaited whilst the biological survey of the river had been included in the programme for 1975.

26. WATER BAILIFFS' STRUCTURE

A report was presented to the last meeting of the Regional Fisheries Advisory Committee held on the 30th September, 1974, on the establishment for water bailiffs within the Cumberland and Lancashire River Units. The report also included proposals for the future organisation and structure of the bailiffing staff in the Rivers Division.

The report was referred to the Local Fisheries Advisory Committees for information.

It was stated that final confirmation of certain proposals incorporated in the report was awaited, and should this be forthcoming it was anticipated that the new structure would contribute greatly to producing a stable and efficient bailiffing force throughout the area.

Members were assured that the continuation and development of relationships between the angling public and the bailiffs was a prime object.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Authority approach the Local Authorities in Cumbria in an effort to obtain suitable rented accommodation for bailiffing staff, where appropriate.

27. FISHERIES WITHIN THE OWNERSHIP OF THE AUTHORITY

At the request of the Regional Fisheries Advisory Committee, a schedule of fisheries within the ownership of the Authority had been circulated to all members of Local Fisheries Advisory Committees for information and comment.

Members felt that the Authority in formulating a recreational activities policy should encourage angling associations to improve and develop their fisheries.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Regional Fisheries Advisory Committee be informed that angling associations within the area of this Committee are concerned with their inability to obtain satisfactory periods of tenure on certain waters now in the ownership of the Authority, Ennerdale Lake and Meadley Reservoir being examples where the lease is renewed at twelve monthly intervals.

28. REPORT BY UNIT FISHERIES OFFICER ON FISHERIES ACTIVITIES

The Unit Fisheries Officer submitted his report on the activities of his Department since the last meeting of the Committee.

RESOLVED:

That a list of successful prosecutions instituted by the Cumberland River Unit under the provisions of the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Acts, 1923-1972 and Byelaws made thereunder, be circulated with the papers for meetings to each member of this Committee, and that Minute No. 20 of the meeting of the Committee held on the 2nd September, 1974, be rescinded accordingly.

NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITYMINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
EDEN AND DISTRICT FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE3RD DECEMBER, 1974

Present: E. P. Ecroyd, Esq. (Chairman)
E. Cave, Esq. B. Irving, Esq.
L. Heyworth, Esq. J. S. Marshall, Esq.
Wm. McKenna, Esq.

25. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received from Mr. W. Birkett, Captain J. G. Milne Home, Mr. P. J. Liddell and Mr. J. R. S. Watson.

26. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 3rd September, 1974, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
- (2) That the feasibility of circulating the minutes of other Local Fisheries Advisory Committees to this Committee for information, be investigated and a report made to the next meeting of this Committee.

27. WATER BAILIFFS' STRUCTURE

A report was presented to the last meeting of the Regional Fisheries Advisory Committee held on the 30th September, 1974, on the establishment for water bailiffs within the Cumberland and Lancashire River Units. The report also included proposals for the future organisation and structure of the bailiffing staff in the Rivers Division.

The report was referred to the Local Fisheries Advisory Committees for information.

It was stated that final confirmation of certain proposals incorporated in the report was awaited, and should this be forthcoming it was anticipated that the new structure would contribute greatly to producing a stable and efficient bailiffing force throughout the area.

28. FISHERIES WITHIN THE OWNERSHIP OF THE AUTHORITY

At the request of the Regional Fisheries Advisory Committee, a schedule of fisheries within the ownership of the Authority had been circulated to all members of Local Fisheries Advisory Committees for information and comment.

RESOLVED:

That the Unit Fisheries Officer examine the position regarding the possibility of Castle Carrock reservoir being opened as a fishery and report thereon to this Committee.

29. "COARSE FISHERIES" - REGIONAL FISHERIES OFFICER'S COMMENTS

In accordance with the Minute No. 21 of the meeting of the Committee held on the 3rd September, 1974, the Regional Fisheries Officer submitted his comments on the report entitled "Coarse Fisheries".

The appreciation of the Committee was expressed to the Regional Fisheries Officer for his comprehensive survey of the report.

RECOMMENDED:

That the recommendations in the report be supported and accepted as a guide by the Authority to their policy on coarse fisheries.

30. UNIT FISHERIES OFFICER'S REPORT ON FISHERIES ACTIVITIES

The Unit Fisheries Officer submitted his report on the activities of his Department since the last meeting of the Committee.

31. INSPECTION OF FISHERIES

RESOLVED:

That on the day of the next meeting of this Committee, 14th January, 1975, a tour of inspection of selected fisheries works be undertaken and the appropriate officers compile an itinerary for this purpose, for the approval of the Chairman.

32. WEED GROWTH IN THE RIVER EDEN

The Chairman referred to the proliferation of weed growth in the River Eden during the last five years and expressed the hope that the Authority could be associated with any instructions issued by the Eden and District Fisheries Association for the necessary periodical cutting.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Authority, on receipt of evidence that the Eden and District Fisheries Association have arranged a programme of weed cutting, write to the appropriate riparian owners on the River Eden requesting their participation and co-operation.

33. WATER QUALITY REPRESENTATION

At the first meeting of this Committee held on 4th June, 1974, it was reported that the Authority had agreed in principle, with the support of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, that membership of the Local Fisheries Advisory Committees might usefully include one or two persons knowledgeable in the quality aspects of surface water. The Committee expressed its support for this proposal but felt that they were not in a position to make a nomination at that time.

RESOLVED:

That the Chairman of the Committee make an initial informal approach to Dr. Faulkener, a member of the Yorkshire Fly Fishers Club, in connection with this matter.

34. PORTABLE GENERATOR - HOLMWRANGLE HATCHERY

RECOMMENDATION:

That every effort be made by the Authority to make available a portable generator for use at the hatchery as a safeguard against possible power failures during this season's critical hatching period.

NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITYMINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
LUNE, WYRE & FURNESS FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE9TH DECEMBER, 1974

Present: J. M. Croft, Esq. (Chairman)
W. Bailey, Esq. Dr. J. V. Dyer
R. Barratt, Esq. J. H. Fell, Esq.
R. A. Challenor, Esq. A. L. Harris, Esq.
Major N. J. Clarkson Webb L. Hill, Esq.
J. R. S. Watson, Esq.

In Attendance: T. M. Farrer, Esq.

In opening the meeting the Chairman welcomed Mr. T. M. Farrer, Chairman of the Regional Land Drainage Committee; and Dr. J. V. Dyer recently nominated to this Committee.

23. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received from Mr. C. H. Cheetham and Mr. P. J. Liddell.

24. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED:

That subject to the insertion of the words "below a certain height of flow" after the word "abstracting" in the fourth line of the recommendation to Minute No. 20, the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 9th September, 1974, be approved and signed by the Chairman.

25. WATER BAILIFFS' STRUCTURE

A report was presented to the last meeting of the Regional Fisheries Advisory Committee held on the 30th September, 1974, on the establishment for water bailiffs within the Cumberland and Lancashire River Units. The report also included proposals for the future organisation and structure of the bailiffing staff in the Rivers Division.

The report was referred to the Local Fisheries Advisory Committees for information.

It was stated that final confirmation of certain proposals incorporated in the report was awaited, and should this be forthcoming it was anticipated that the new structure would contribute greatly to producing a stable and efficient bailiffing force throughout the area.

26. FISHERIES WITHIN THE OWNERSHIP OF THE AUTHORITY

At the request of the Regional Fisheries Advisory Committee a schedule of fisheries within the ownership of the Authority had been circulated to all members of Local Fisheries Advisory Committees for information and comment.

RESOLVED:

That the schedule be received.

27. "COARSE FISHERIES" - REGIONAL FISHERIES OFFICER'S REPORT

The Regional Fisheries Officer submitted his comments on the report to the Association of River Authorities entitled "Coarse Fisheries".

28. HALTON FISHERY, RIVER LUNE - ISSUE OF PERMITS

The Secretary of the Ribble Fisheries Association had written to the Manager of the Lancashire River Unit, explaining the difficulties being encountered by certain anglers from the Preston area in obtaining permits for fishing on Halton Fishery.

Proposals incorporating a "Control" system were considered as was the existing method and it was pointed out that whilst present arrangements appeared to cater satisfactorily for the majority of anglers, future developments could possibly enable a 24 hour information service to be provided.

RESOLVED:

That the appropriate officers investigate alternatives to the existing system and report thereon to the Regional Fisheries Advisory Committee.

29. UNIT FISHERIES OFFICER'S REPORT ON FISHERIES ACTIVITIES

The Unit Fisheries Officer submitted his report on activities within the area since the last meeting of the Committee.

The Unit Fisheries Officer stated that within the last week there had been an apparent increase in the incidence of Ulcerative Dermal Necrosis which could be attributed to the fall in river temperatures. The majority of the fish however had spawned successfully.

30. BANK EROSION ON THE RIVER LUNE

The Secretary of the Lune and Wyre Fishery Association expressed concern on behalf of the owners and tenants of fisheries on the middle and lower Lune, regarding the build up of gravel silt which had occurred along stretches of the river since the autumn floods of 1967.

It was agreed that many holding pools had been filled in by gravel deposits which were on the move throughout the river and that the banks of the river from below Kirkby Lonsdale were suffering erosion.

RESOLVED:

That the Officers of the Authority examine the feasibility of undertaking a comprehensive survey of the river, which would reveal where work could most usefully be carried out, and report to the Regional Fisheries Advisory Committee.

NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITYMINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
LUNE, WYRE & FURNESS FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE9TH DECEMBER, 1974

Present: J. M. Croft, Esq. (Chairman)
W. Bailey, Esq. Dr. J. V. Dyer
R. Barratt, Esq. J. H. Fell, Esq.
R. A. Challenor, Esq. A. L. Harris, Esq.
Major N. J. Clarkson Webb L. Hill, Esq.
J. R. S. Watson, Esq.

In Attendance: T. M. Farrer, Esq.

In opening the meeting the Chairman welcomed Mr. T. M. Farrer, Chairman of the Regional Land Drainage Committee; and Dr. J. V. Dyer recently nominated to this Committee.

23. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received from Mr. C. H. Cheetham and Mr. P. J. Liddell.

24. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED:

That subject to the insertion of the words "below a certain height of flow" after the word "abstracting" in the fourth line of the recommendation to Minute No. 20, the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 9th September, 1974, be approved and signed by the Chairman.

25. WATER BAILIFFS' STRUCTURE

A report was presented to the last meeting of the Regional Fisheries Advisory Committee held on the 30th September, 1974, on the establishment for water bailiffs within the Cumberland and Lancashire River Units. The report also included proposals for the future organisation and structure of the bailiffing staff in the Rivers Division.

The report was referred to the Local Fisheries Advisory Committees for information.

It was stated that final confirmation of certain proposals incorporated in the report was awaited, and should this be forthcoming it was anticipated that the new structure would contribute greatly to producing a stable and efficient bailiffing force throughout the area.

26. FISHERIES WITHIN THE OWNERSHIP OF THE AUTHORITY

At the request of the Regional Fisheries Advisory Committee a schedule of fisheries within the ownership of the Authority had been circulated to all members of Local Fisheries Advisory Committees for information and comment.

RESOLVED:

That the schedule be received.

27. "COARSE FISHERIES" - REGIONAL FISHERIES OFFICER'S REPORT

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Proposals incorporating a "Control" system were considered as was the existing method and it was pointed out that whilst present arrangements appeared to cater satisfactorily for the majority of anglers, future developments could possibly enable a 24 hour information service to be provided.

RESOLVED:

That the appropriate officers investigate alternatives to the existing system and report thereon to the Regional Fisheries Advisory Committee.

29. UNIT FISHERIES OFFICER'S REPORT ON FISHERIES ACTIVITIES

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The Unit Fisheries Officer stated that within the last week there had been an apparent increase in the incidence of Ulcerative Dermal Necrosis which could be attributed to the fall in river temperatures. The majority of the fish however had spawned successfully.

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It was agreed that many holding pools had been filled in by gravel deposits which were on the move throughout the river and that the banks of the river from below Kirkby Lonsdale were suffering erosion.

RESOLVED:

That the Officers of the Authority examine the feasibility of undertaking a comprehensive survey of the river, which would reveal where work could most usefully be carried out, and report to the Regional Fisheries Advisory Committee.

NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITY

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
SOUTH LANCASHIRE FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

11TH DECEMBER, 1974

Present: R. D. Houghton, Esq. (Chairman)
T. A. F. Barnes, Esq. J. Johnson, Esq.
T. A. Blackledge, Esq. Professor W. Kershaw
R. H. Wiseman, Esq.

22. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received from Mr. P. J. Liddell and Mr. J. R. S. Watson.

23. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the last meeting of the Committee held on 11th September, 1974, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

24. WATER BAILIFFS' STRUCTURE

A report was presented to the last meeting of the Regional Fisheries Advisory Committee held on the 30th September, 1974, on the establishment for water bailiffs within the Cumberland and Lancashire River Units. The report also included proposals for the future organisation and structure of the bailiffing staff in the Rivers Division.

The report was referred to the Local Fisheries Advisory Committees for information.

It was stated that final confirmation of certain proposals incorporated in the report was awaited, and should this be forthcoming it was anticipated that the new structure would contribute greatly to producing a stable and efficient bailiffing force throughout the area.

25. FISHERIES WITHIN THE OWNERSHIP OF THE AUTHORITY

At the request of the Regional Fisheries Advisory Committee, a schedule of fisheries within the ownership of the Authority had been circulated to all members of Local Fisheries Advisory Committees for information and comment.

The members felt that every effort should be made to open available Authority owned waters for angling to the benefit of the Authority's revenue and in instances where developments of this nature were not possible then the fish in those reservoirs be transferred to other suitable waters.

It was pointed out that the physical contours of many water supply reservoirs made their effective netting virtually impossible.

RECOMMENDED:

That as a matter of urgency the Authority consider which waters in their ownership and supporting fish populations could be used for angling and further consider the possibility of opening as many as practicable to the public.

26. 'COARSE FISHERIES' - REGIONAL FISHERIES OFFICERS'S REPORT

The Regional Fisheries Officer submitted his comments on the report entitled 'Coarse Fisheries'.

RECOMMENDED:

(1) That the report be received, and the the recommendations contained therein be supported and accepted as a guide by the Authority to their policy on Coarse Fisheries.

(2) That the Authority continue to seek a suitable site for the establishment of a coarse fish unit.

27. CLITHEROE SEWAGE WORKS - DISCHARGE TO RIVER RIBBLE

The Secretary of the Ribble Fisheries Association had asked for a report on the discharge from Clitheroe Sewage Works to the River Ribble.

A summary was given of the position as it existed at the present time and it was further reported that discussions were continuing with interested parties.

RESOLVED:

That the Unit Fisheries Officer in consultation with the Manager of the Ribble Effluent Treatment Unit prepare a report on the situation and a copy be forwarded to the Secretary of the Ribble Fisheries Association.

28. UNIT FISHERIES OFFICER'S REPORT ON FISHERIES ACTIVITIES

The Unit Fisheries Officer submitted his report on activities of his Department since the last meeting of the Committee.

It was reported that since the completion of the report there had been an outbreak of Ulcerative Dermal Necrosis which could be attributed to falling water temperatures but the fish mortality rate was not comparable with past years. The Unit Fisheries Officer stated that the stock at Langcliffe Hatchery was developing favourably and it appeared that the output from the fish taken by netting was healthier and more active than the product of those obtained by electro fishing.

The future date of the commencing of the annual close season for salmon rods and the obtaining of fish for stripping was discussed and it was agreed that the Unit Fisheries Officer and the Secretary of the Ribble Fisheries Association would liaise on this matter.

29. POACHING

Concern was expressed by the Chairman of the Committee in connection with the alleged extensive poaching of the Rivers Ribble and Hodder. The steps to be taken to improve the situation were discussed.

RECOMMENDED:

That whilst the efforts of the bailiffing staff are appreciated, the Authority consider all possible additional means of combatting the alleged intense poaching of the rivers Ribble and Hodder.

30. COARSE FISH STOCKS OF THE RIVERS RIBBLE AND WYRE

The Secretary of the Lancashire Fisheries Consultative Association had expressed his Association's concern regarding the possible reduction of stocks in coarse fish in the rivers Ribble and Wyre.

RECOMMENDED:

That an experimental restocking of a stretch of the River Ribble involving the release of dyemarked Roach followed by a census of catches be carried out.

NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITYMINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
MERSEY & WEAVER FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE16TH DECEMBER, 1974

Present: F. R. James, Esq. (Chairman)
J. S. Bailey, Esq. A. Ross, Esq.
F. Egerton, Esq. F. W. Sims, Esq.
P. W. Jennings, Esq. J. R. S. Watson, Esq.

28. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence from the meeting were received from
Mr. T. Hourigan, Dr. J. W. Jones, Mr. P. J. Liddell, and
Mr. T. N. McLoughlin,

29. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the last meeting of the
Committee, held on 16th September, 1974, be approved
as a correct record and signed by the Chairman,

30. WATER BAILIFFS' STRUCTURE

A report was presented to the last meeting of the Regional
Fisheries Advisory Committee held on the 30th September, 1974,
on the establishment for water bailiffs within the Cumberland
and Lancashire River Units. The report also included proposals
for the future organisation and structure of the bailiffing
staff in the Rivers Division.

The report was referred to the Local Fisheries Advisory
Committees for information.

It was stated that final confirmation of certain proposals
incorporated in the report was awaited, and should this be
forthcoming it was anticipated that the new structure would
contribute greatly to producing a stable and efficient bailiffing
force throughout the area.

31. FISHERIES WITHIN THE OWNERSHIP OF THE AUTHORITY

At the request of the Regional Fisheries Advisory Committee,
a schedule of fisheries within the ownership of the Authority had
been circulated to all members of the Local Fisheries Advisory
Committees for information and comment.

RECOMMENDED:

That on appropriate waters, the Authority grant
leases with sufficient security of tenure to enable
lessees to qualify for grant-aid from the Sports
Council in the development of those fisheries.

32. "COARSE FISHERIES" - REGIONAL FISHERIES OFFICER'S REPORT

The Regional Fisheries Officer submitted his comments on the report entitled "Coarse Fisheries",

RECOMMENDED:

That the report be received and the recommendations contained therein be supported and accepted as a guide by the Authority to their coarse fish policy.

33. STRUCTURE OF LICENCE DUTIES FOR THE MERSEY AND WEAVER RIVER UNIT AREA

At the last meeting of the Committee a recommendation had been made that a Freshwater Fish Licence for the area of the Mersey and Weaver River Unit be incorporated in the structure of licence duties, at a cost equivalent to that levied in the area of the Lancashire River Unit.

The Regional Fisheries Advisory Committee at the meeting held on 30th September, 1974, referred this matter back to the Committee for further consideration and consultation with Local Fishery Associations.

It was reported that the Mersey and Weaver Anglers' Consultative Association, the Liverpool and District Angling Association and the Northwich and District Joint Anglers' Association, were opposed to the introduction of a licensing system within the Mersey and Weaver River Unit area until there was a marked improvement in the condition of fisheries.

RECOMMENDED:

(1) That if a Regional Freshwater Fish Licence be introduced by the Authority the duty should not exceed 50p and Juniors (12 to 15 years inclusive) and Old Age Pensioners to be accorded a 50% discount.

(2) That a Brown Trout Licence be introduced for the area of the Mersey and Weaver River Unit with a duty of 50p for all age groups.

34. COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN MEMBERS AND THE AUTHORITY

RESOLVED:

That members of the Committee address ~~the~~ items for consideration for inclusion in the Committee's agenda to the Director of Administration for necessary action.

35. MEETING SCHEDULED FOR 12TH MAY, 1975

RESOLVED:

That the meeting of the Committee scheduled for 12th May, 1975, be brought forward to 21st April, 1975.

NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITYREGIONAL FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE6TH JANUARY, 1975PROCEEDINGS OF THE FISHERY LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE

1. The Sub-Committee, consisting of the Chairman of the Regional Fisheries Advisory Committee and the Chairmen of each of the five Local Fisheries Advisory Committees, was appointed by this Committee at the last meeting held on 30th September, 1974.
2. The Sub-Committee was asked to consider the fishing licence duties operating within the Region at the present time and report their findings and recommendations to this Committee.
3. The Sub-Committee met on three occasions, 14th October, 11th November and 20th December at Preston, under the Chairmanship of Mr. J.R.S. Watson. Copies of the minutes of those meetings are attached hereto as Appendices 1, 2 and 3.
4. Mr. W. Bailey and Mr. Wm. McKenna who represent the interests of the estuary netmen on the Lune, Wyre and Furness and Eden Fisheries Advisory Committees respectively, were in attendance at the second and third meetings of the Sub-Committee by invitation of the Chairman.
5. In the course of their deliberations the Sub-Committee considered recommendations from the Mersey and Weaver Fisheries Advisory Committee in whose area there is no existing licensing system.
6. The following is a summary of the recommendations of the Sub-Committee as set out in the minutes of the respective meetings.
 - (1) That Rod and Line Licences be issued to cover the whole of the Region and there be no Part-Area Licences.
 - (2) That the Authority regulate fishing for Freshwater Fish and Eels throughout the area by means of a licensing system.
 - (3) That there be no separate Rod and Line Licence issued for Migratory Trout but that various Rod and Line Licences be issued for "Salmon and Migratory Trout".
 - (4) That Children under 12 years of age be exempted from the licensing provisions for Rod and Line.
 - (5) That in the event of the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food confirming a new code of increased Rod and Line Licence Duties, similar percentage increases be applied to the existing General Licences issued within the Region.
 - (6) That consideration of the standardisation of the rate of commission paid to licence distributors throughout the Region be deferred pending settlement of a new scale of licence duties.

7. That in the light of the foregoing and having due regard to the following points:-

- (a) The fall in value of money since the existing scales of Rod and Line and Net and Fixed Engine Licence Duties were introduced in Cumberland on 1st January, 1971.
- (b) The fall in value of money since the existing scales of Net Licence Duties were introduced in Lancashire in 1957 and the Rod and Line Licence Duties on 1st January, 1972.
- (c) The Ministry's stated general aim of increasing contributions from this source so that fisheries become more viable than at present.
- (d) The desirability of rationalising and simplifying the structure in its application to the whole of the Region.

The structure and scale of licence duties be as set out below:-

<u>ROD AND LINE WHOLE AREA</u> <u>Salmon and Migratory Trout</u>	<u>Proposed</u> £	<u>Existing</u>	
		<u>Cumberland</u> R.U. £	<u>Lancashire</u> R.U. £
Season	12,00	6,00	8,00
Part Season to 31st May	6,00	-	-
Part Season from 1st June	7,00	-	5,00*
Season Junior (12-15 years inclusive)	5,00	-	2,00
Part Season Junior to 31st May (12-15 years inclusive)	2,50	-	-
Part Season Junior from 1st June (12-15 years inclusive)	3,00	-	-
7 Days	2,00	2,00	2,00
<u>Brown Trout</u>			
Season	2,00	2,00**	1,00
Season Junior (12-15 years inclusive)	1,00	-	-
Season O.A.P.	1,00	-	-
7 Days	0,50	0,50**	0,35
<u>Freshwater Fish and Eels</u>			
Season	1,00	-	0,50
Season Junior (12-15 years inclusive)	0,50	-	0,125
Season O.A.P.	0,50	-	-

* From 1st July.

** Includes Migratory Trout

NETS AND FIXED ENGINES

	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Existing</u>	
		<u>Cumberland</u>	<u>Lancashire</u>
<u>Cumberland River Unit Area</u>		<u>R.U.</u>	<u>R.U.</u>
	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
Whole Area Drift Net	60,00	35,00	
River Eden Draw Net	300,00	60,00	
River Esk Draw Net	50,00	30,00	
Whole Area Heave Net	13,00	6,50	
River Eden Coop	90,00	55,00	
River Derwent Coop	200,00	125,00	
S.W. Cumberland Garth	100,00	65,00	
<u>Lancashire River Unit Area</u>			
River Ribble Drift Net	40,00		15,00
River Lune Drift Net	80,00		30,00
River Lune Draw Net	70,00		25,00
River Duddon Draw Net	55,00		20,00
River Lune Heave Net	30,00		15,00
River Kent Lave Net	30,00		15,00
River Leven Lave Net	25,00		15,00

FISHERY LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE14TH OCTOBER, 1974

Present: J. R. S. Watson, Esq. (Chairman)
 J. M. Croft, Esq. W. F. Hobson, Esq.,
 E. P. Ecroyd, Esq. R. D. Houghton, Esq.,
 F. R. James, Esq.

1. APOLOGY FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence from the meeting was received from Mr. P. J. Liddell.

2. LICENSING REQUIREMENTS IN RESPECT OF FRESHWATER FISH AND EELS

The Chairman referred to the statutory duty of the Authority to regulate by means of a system of licensing, fishing for salmon and trout in their area; it was a further requirement that, except so far as excused by the Minister, fishing for freshwater fish of any description or eels be similarly regulated.

RECOMMENDED:

That the Authority regulate fishing for freshwater fish and eels throughout the area by means of a licensing system.

3. STRUCTURE OF ROD AND LINE LICENSING SYSTEM

The following points were considered in arriving at the structure of the system and the duties applicable:-

- (i) The necessity to provide a more realistic source of income to set against the fishery expenditure of the Authority;
- (ii) The desirability of rationalising and simplifying the structure in its application to the whole of the area;
- (iii) The increased fishing which would be available to anglers taking out a proposed area licence;
- (iv) The fall in the value of money since the introduction of the existing duties in 1971 (Cumberland River Authority) and in 1972 (Lancashire River Authority) :-

Retail Price Index at June, 1974 - 41.8% up on January, 1971, figure and 31.13% up on January, 1972.

- (v) The need to take into consideration the fact that it may be some years before a further review of the system could be carried out,
- (vi) The more equitable "bracketing" of migratory trout with salmon rather than brown trout in view of the propagation and bailiffing time devoted to this species;

- (vii) The fact that the duty for any licence issued for a period not exceeding 14 days could be fixed by the Authority without reference to the Minister.

RECOMMENDED:

That the following structure of licensing duties be adopted for the area of the Authority, each licence being applicable to the whole of the area:-

1. Salmon and Migratory Trout

	£
Season	10.00
Season Junior (12-15 years inclusive)	5.00
Part Season to 31st May	5.00
Part Season, Junior to 31st May (12-15 years inclusive)	2.50
Part Season from 1st June	5.00
Part Season, Junior from 1st June (12-15 years inclusive)	2.50
7 days	2.00

Brown Trout

Season	2.00
Season Junior (12-15 years inclusive)	1.00
Season O.A.P.	1.00
7 days	0.50

Freshwater Fish and Eels

Season	1.00
Season Junior (12-15 year inclusive)	0.50
Season O.A.P.	0.50

2. That the appropriate officers submit proposals for the duties in respect of existing general licences, to the next meeting of the Regional Fisheries Advisory Committee.
3. That children under the age of 12 years be exempted from the licensing provisions,

4. REVISION OF LICENSING DUTIES IN RESPECT OF NETS AND FIXED ENGINES

Prior to considering the duties applicable to the various types of nets and fixed engines it was

RESOLVED:

1. That the officers produce a schedule including an analysis of the catches per type of net, relating the cost in duty paid per fish caught;
2. That the Regional Fisheries Officer in liaison with the Unit Fisheries Officers submit proposals for a new scale of duties for the nets and fixed engines and the Director of Finance, prepare a separate schedule, based upon financial and statistical criteria;
3. That Mr. William McKenna (netsmens' representative) be invited to attend the next meeting of the sub-committee.

5. NEXT MEETING OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE

RESOLVED:

That the next meeting of the Sub-Committee be held on Monday, 11th November, 1974, at 2.30 p.m. at the offices of the Lancashire River Unit, West Cliff, Preston.

NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITYFISHERY LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE11TH NOVEMBER, 1974

Present: J. R. S. Watson, Esq. (Chairman)
J. M. Croft, Esq. W. F. Hobson, Esq.
E. P. Ecroyd, Esq. R. D. Houghton, Esq.

In Attendance: W. Bailey, Esq. and Wm. McKenna, Esq.

6. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. T. Hourigan, Mr. F. R. James and Mr. P. J. Liddell.

7. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the last meeting of this Sub-Committee held on 14th October, 1974, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

8. GENERAL LICENCES

RECOMMENDED:

That in the event of the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food confirming a new code of increased Rod and Line Licence Duties, similar percentage increases be applied to the existing General Licences issued within the Region.

9. NET AND FIXED ENGINE LICENCE DUTIES

In accordance with the resolution of Minute 4 of the last meeting of the Sub-Committee, a schedule was presented showing an analysis of the catches for each type of net within the area, relating the cost in duty paid to fish caught. A second table indicating possible new rates of duty, having regard to the increases in prices on the basis of the Retail Price Index, was also considered.

RESOLVED:

That the offer of the Chairman of the Sub-Committee, to consult with the Ministry in ascertaining an acceptable basis upon which to proceed in assessing licence duties, be accepted.

10. FISHING LICENCES - DISTRIBUTORS' COMMISSION

RECOMMENDED:

That consideration of the standardisation of the rate of commission paid to licence distributors throughout the Region be deferred pending settlement of the new scale of licence duties.

11. FISHING LICENCES FOR SALMON AND MIGRATORY TROUT -
CATCH RETURNS

It was reported that a number of former River Authorities had made a practice of printing the statutory return on a pre-paid, addressed form.

The Regional Fisheries Officer recommended that this system be adopted within the Region.

RESOLVED:

That this item be included on the Agenda for the next meeting of the Regional Fisheries Advisory Committee.

12. NEXT MEETING OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE

RESOLVED:

That the next meeting of the Sub-Committee be held on Friday, 20th December, 1974, at 2.30 p.m. at the Offices of the Lancashire River Unit, West Cliff, Preston.

NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITYFISHERY LICENSING SUB-COMMITTEE20TH DECEMBER, 1974

Present: J.R.S. Watson Esq., (Chairman)
 J.M. Croft, Esq., E.P. Ecroyd, Esq.,
 R.D. Houghton, Esq.

In Attendance: W. Bailey Esq., and Wm. McKenna Esq.

13. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. W.F. Hobson
 Mr. T. Hourigan, Mr. F.R. James and Mr. P.J. Liddell.

14. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the last meeting of the Sub-Committee held on the 11th November, 1974, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

15. ROD AND LINE LICENCE DUTIES

The Chairman reported on the discussions between Chairmen of Regional Fisheries Advisory Committees at their recent meeting, regarding increases in duties, from which it was apparent that all Water Authorities proposed to increase licence duties and that the Sub Committee's proposals were basically in keeping with those of the other Authorities.

The recommendations from the Mersey and Weaver Fisheries Advisory Committee in connection with the duty for Brown Trout and Freshwater Fish Licences and contained in Minute 33 of the meeting of that Committee held on the 16th December 1974 were also considered, as was the feasibility of a One Day Licence,

RECOMMENDED:

That the following structure of licensing duties be adopted for the area of the Authority from the 1st January 1976, each licence being applicable to the whole of the area and the recommendation in Minute 3 of the Meeting of the Sub-Committee held on the 14th October 1974 be varied accordingly.

1. Salmon and Migratory Trout

Season	12.00
Season Junior (12-15 years inclusive).	5.00
Part Season to 31st May	6.00
Part Season, Junior to 31st May (12-15 years inclusive)	2.50
Part Season from 1st June	7.00
Part Season Junior from 1st June (12-15 years inclusive)	3.00
7 Days.	2.00

2.	<u>Brown Trout</u>	£
	Season	2.00
	Season Junior (12-15 years inclusive)	1.00
	Season O.A.P.	1.00
	7 days.	0.50
3.	<u>Freshwater Fish and Eels</u>	
	Season	1.00
	Season Junior (12-15 years inclusive)	0.50
	Season O.A.P.	0.50

16. LICENCE DUTIES - NETS AND FIXED ENGINES

Members of the Sub-Committee considered a schedule prepared by the Officers, of suggested licence duties for Nets and Fixed Engines to come into effect on 1st January, 1976.

In calculating the proposed duties regard had been had to the fact that the existing Cumberland River Unit rates had been fixed in 1971 whilst the Lancashire River Unit rates were fixed as long ago as 1957. Calculations relating to the increase in prices since these dates had been made using the Retail Price Index as a measure of these changes.

The effect upon the commercial fishing interests in the estuarial waters was considered and it was felt that the proposals were equitable whilst meeting the need to make the fisheries effort of the Authority more viable.

RECOMMENDED:

That the following structure of licensing duties in respect of Nets and Fixed Engines be adopted for the area of the Authority from the 1st January 1976:-

<u>Cumberland River Unit Area</u>			£
Whole Area	-	Drift Net	60
River Eden	-	Draw Net	300
River Esk	-	Draw Net	50
Whole Area	-	Heave Net	13
River Eden	-	Coop	90
River Derwent	-	Coop	200
S.W Cumberland	-	Garth	100

Lancashire River Unit Area

		£
River Ribble	- Drift Net	40
River Lune	- Drift Net	80
River Lune	- Draw Net	70
River Duddon	- Draw Net	55
River Lune	- Heave Net	30
River Kent	- Lave Net	30
River Leven	- Lave Net	25

NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITY

REGIONAL FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

6TH JANUARY, 1975

CATCH RETURNS - SALMON AND MIGRATORY TROUT

1. Under the Fishery Byelaws of the former Cumberland River Authority any person fishing for salmon is required to submit a return to the Authority whilst the Lancashire Byelaw requires returns in respect of salmon and migratory trout.
2. A nil return, if that be the case, is required by The Lancashire Byelaw.
3. Only a small percentage of these statements are in fact received and therefore no accurate assessment can be made of the fish caught.
4. Catch returns are required for the Authority's information in connection with the preparation of annual catch tables and general management of fisheries.
5. A number of the former River Authorities having this problem made a practice of printing a catch return as a prepaid addressed form with the aim of producing an improved percentage return.
6. Although applied primarily to rod licences, such a system is equally applicable to returns for nets and fixed engines.
7. The Committee may wish to recommend that this system be adopted by the Authority with a view to improving the catch returns.

NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITYREGIONAL FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE6TH JANUARY, 1975MANCHESTER WATER ORDER, 1966 -
FISHERIES IMPROVEMENT WORK ON THE RIVER LEVEN

1. At the last meeting of the Committee held on 30th September, 1974, a report was submitted regarding the payment of compensation of £30,000 by the former Manchester Corporation to the former Lancashire River Authority in respect of "injurious affection (whether anticipated or suffered) to fisheries [in the River Leven] in consequence of the taking of water from Windermere",
2. The Lune, Wyre and Furness Fisheries Advisory Committee had considered the matter in detail at a meeting held on 9th September, 1974 when they recommended as follows:-
 - "(i) That the legal position regarding the application of the monies paid by the former Manchester Corporation be clarified, and if permissible that Mr. D. While be approached to ascertain whether he would be willing to cease abstracting from the River Leven during the months of July, August and September in each year and the compensation he would require in consequence thereof,
 - (ii) That consideration of the programme of works, as detailed, be deferred until such time as the approach to Mr. While has been made and his reactions are known",
3. The view of the Authority's Legal Department is that if the cessation of abstraction by Mr. While resulted in an improvement to the fisheries then legally the compensation money could be applied to this purpose,
4. The recommendations of the Advisory Committee were approved by the Regional Committee who also appointed a Sub-Committee consisting of the Chairman of the Regional Fisheries Advisory Committee, Mr. J.M. Croft and Mr. J.H. Fell to deal with any matters arising out of the approach to Mr. D. While, before this meeting.
5. Preliminary discussions have been held between the officers and Mr. D. While, the outcome of which was reported to the Sub-Committee on the 30th December, 1974.
6. Unfortunately because of the time factor the proceedings of the Sub-Committee are not available for inclusion with the papers but a report will be submitted to the Committee at the meeting,

NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITYREGIONAL FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE6TH JANUARY, 1975LAND DRAINAGE REPRESENTATION ON FISHERIES COMMITTEES

1. The constitution of each of the Land Drainage Advisory Committees provides for at least one member to be nominated to represent fisheries interests.
2. Members of the Cumberland and Lancashire Land Drainage Advisory Committees at their recent meetings suggested that in view of the usefulness of the contributions by the fisheries representatives consideration of a reciprocal arrangement for representation of land drainage interests on Fisheries Advisory Committees could prove equally advantageous.
3. The Regional Land Drainage Committee at their meeting held on 5th December, 1974, invited this Committee to consider the proposal.

REGIONAL FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

6TH JANUARY, 1975

BAN ON IMPORTATION OF WILD FRESHWATER FISH

1. At the last meeting of this Committee held on 30th September, 1974, it was reported that the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food were proposing to tighten the existing import controls on freshwater fish as from 1st January, 1975. The date was subsequently altered to 1st April, 1975, in view of the representations from importers to the effect that an earlier date would involve them in claims for compensation in respect of orders already placed with Continental Suppliers.
2. Under the revised arrangements, the Ministry would not issue any licence for the importation of wild, live freshwater fish into Great Britain after 31st March, 1975.
3. It was reported that the deferment of the operative date from 1st January to 1st April had resulted in an upsurge in the import orders and it was felt that an attempt should be made to prevent advantage being taken of the extension of three months.
4. The Chairman of the Authority has communicated with the Ministry on this matter and will report verbally to the meeting.

NORTH WEST WATER AUTHORITYREGIONAL FISHERIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE6TH JANUARY, 1975ANNUAL MEETING OF SEA FISHERIES COMMITTEES -
LONDON, 20TH NOVEMBER, 1974

1. Mr. B.P. Hodgson of the Welsh National Water Development Authority represented Water Authorities (other than Anglian and Northumberland) at this meeting. A report on the proceedings was received from him, through the National Water Council, on 10th December.
2. This Authority was interested in Item 4 of the Agenda, which related to a proposal by the Chief Fisheries Officer of the Sussex Sea Fisheries Committee that registration of fishing vessels should be, in effect, restricted to bona-fide fishermen. He pointed out that at present any person can apply for a fishing registration number which will be granted automatically, whether the vessel in question is a genuine fishing boat, a house-boat or a dinghy. He stated that some boats belonging to amateur "week-end" fishermen are known to carry as many as 100 lobster pots, or as much as 1000 fathoms of trammel or tangle nets, and that out of 879 registered fishing vessels in his area, only 163 belonged to bona-fide fishermen.
3. It was felt by the Regional Fisheries Officer that a policy of restricting the registration of fishing vessels to bona-fide fishermen would be in line with the spirit of Recommendation No. 4 of the Association of River Authorities' Report "Taking Stock". (This relates to the allocation of salmon netting licences to bona-fide fishermen who fish full-time and take an active part in netting operations for both salmon and sea fish). A letter to this effect was accordingly sent to the National Water Council.
4. Notwithstanding a comment by the Sussex Chief Fisheries Officer that under present legislation it is illegal to sell fish for gain from an unregistered vessel, it was stated at the Meeting that, while a boat fishing for profit should be registered, there is no obligation to register. Further, yachts and pleasure boats are exempt from registration.
5. On the question of restriction of registration to bona-fide fishermen, the view expressed at the Meeting by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food was that such a restriction would be likely to lead to a monopoly which could have the undesirable effect of keeping up fish prices, and there were, in any case, difficulties in defining "part-time" fishermen. They felt that concentration on registration as a means of control was unsatisfactory, but that, if boat-owners were exploiting the position by using registration to obtain concessions (e.g. over fuel prices) to which they were not properly entitled, then certain restrictions should be imposed.

It is considered at least open to question whether in fact the activities of part-time fishermen do, in fact, contribute significantly, as is implied by the Ministry, to any holding-down of market prices for sea fish.

6. The Authority is not directly involved in this particular issue. The position is, however, reported for information in order to illustrate the similarity between problems arising in the sea fisheries field and certain aspects of the Water Authority's responsibilities for the licensing of salmon nets. It serves to emphasise the difficulty of resolving issues of this kind in a simple manner.